

A photograph of a grizzly bear standing in a field of yellow wildflowers. The bear is facing left, looking slightly away from the camera. It has brown fur and is wearing a black collar around its neck. The background is a dense field of green grass and yellow flowers, with some trees visible in the distance.

# Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem; Montana's smallest grizzly bear population

## **Conflict Prevention Program Goals:**

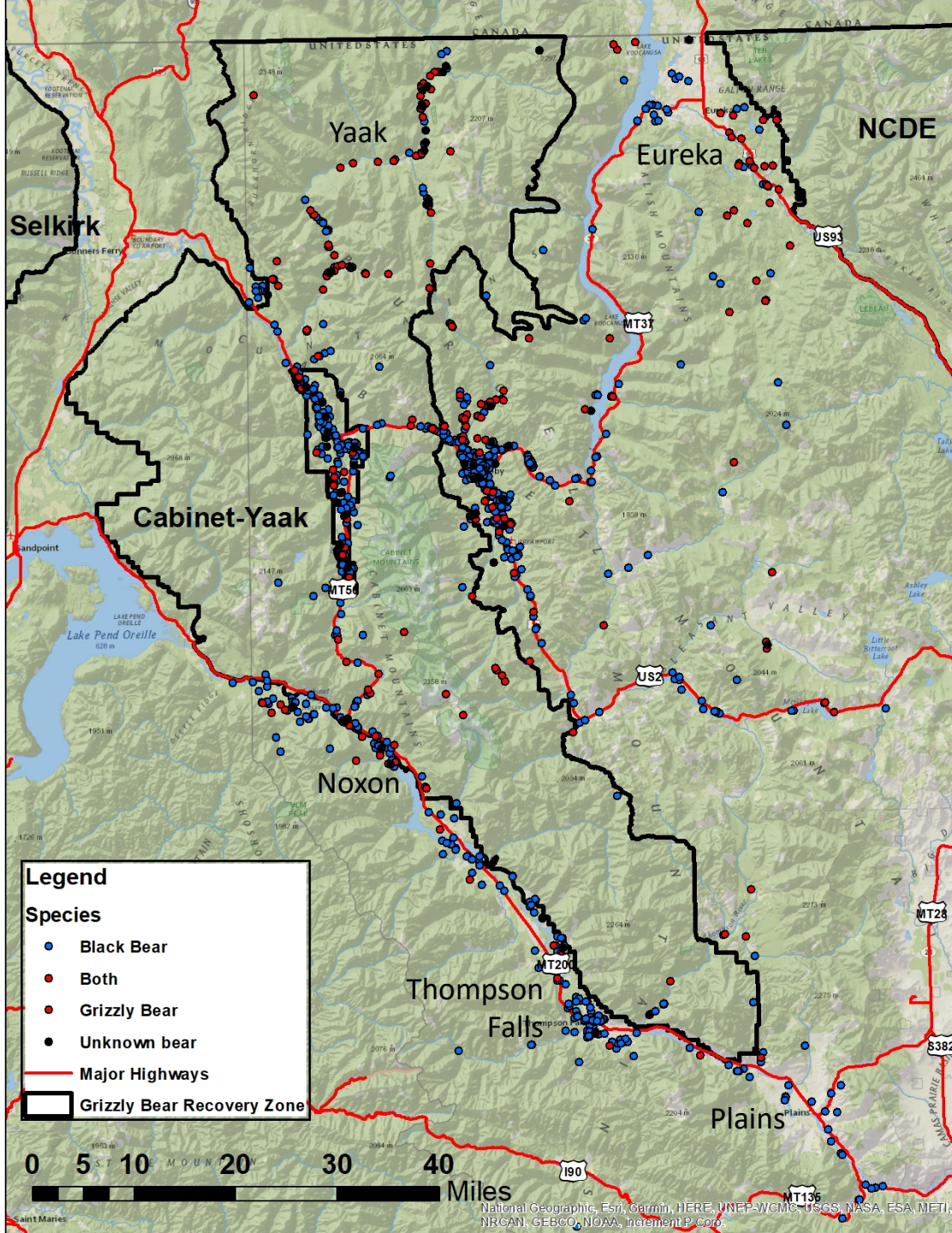
1. Address conflicts quickly/effectively
2. Decrease availability of attractants
3. Reduce unnecessary GB mortality
4. Maintain public support for recovery



- Outreach to prevent conflicts, regardless of species
- Using 2007 survey to target myths and misinformation
- Keeping conflicts down while both human and bear populations grow
- Putting knowledge and tools in the public's hands







# All Bear Conflict Calls 2008-2019

Low conflict levels in comparison to other populations, lots of reasons aside from small GB population here:

- smaller human population
- human development across landscape
- different attractants

## Bear Captures 2008 – 2019

Grizzly bears: 12 (vs T. Manley 212)

Black bears: 104 (vs E. Wenum 376)

## **Montana Outdoors articles** (from FWP's Grizzly Bear Advisory Council's website)

### •[Bursting at the Seams](#)

Whether or not the ever-expanding Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem grizzly population is delisted, FWP will continue to resolve problems between bears and people.

### •[Overdue](#)

State and federal agencies say it's time to take Yellowstone region grizzly bears off the threatened species list.

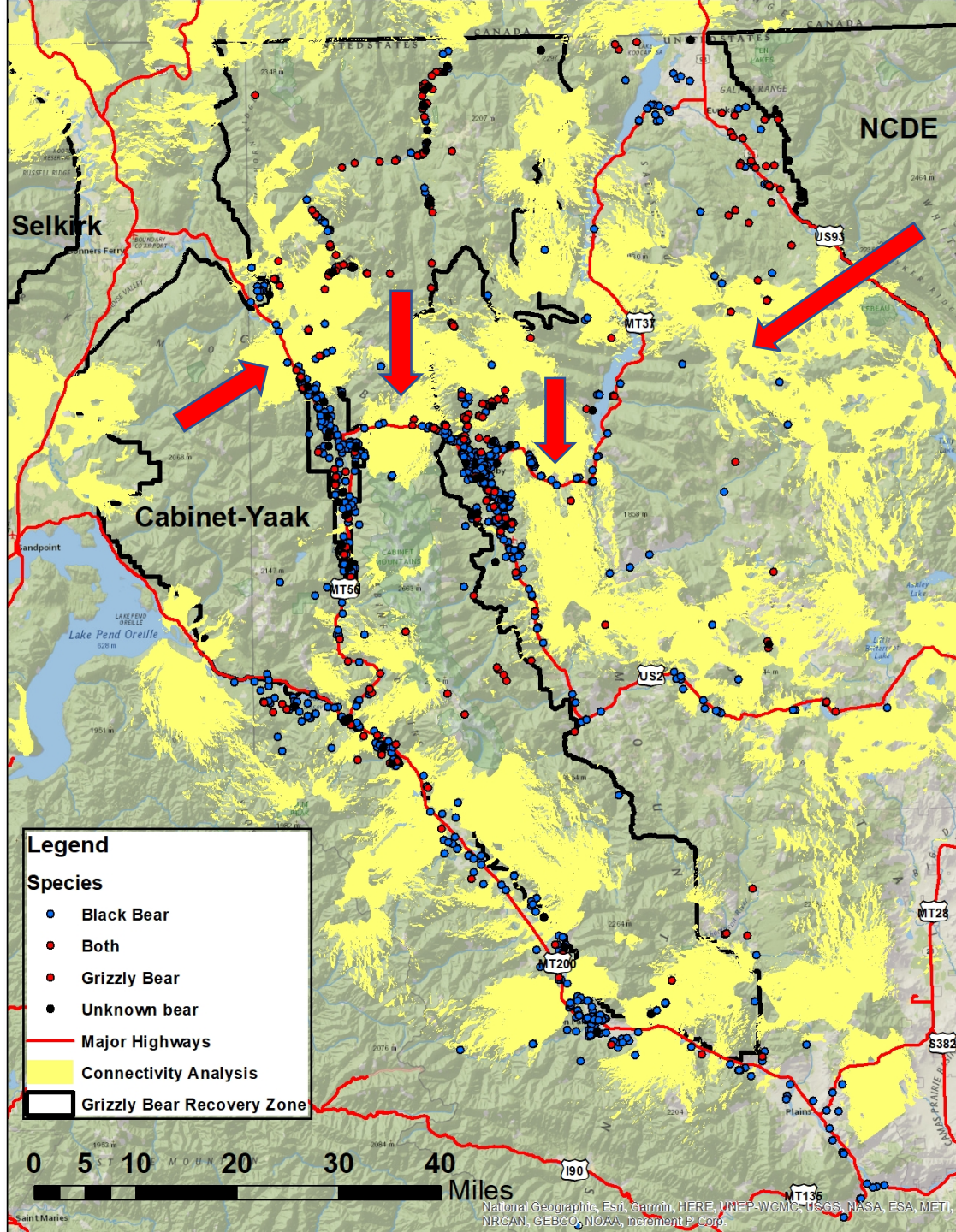
### •[On the Front Lines](#)

As the grizzly population expands, more Montanans are coming face to face with the emboldened bears.

*“Grizzly bear populations are expanding...their populations are recovered in Montana...there is an increase in human-bear conflicts...”*

We need bears to successfully move from a larger population to a smaller population to achieve recovery. There is no wilderness or national park to act as a population anchor here.





## All Bear Conflict Calls 2008-2019, with connectivity analysis overlaid

Available attractants in connectivity areas can reduce the chances of a bear passing through that area successfully without conflict.

Most common causes of conflicts:

- Hobby chickens, or other poultry
- Garbage
- Fruiting trees
- Small livestock feed (typically poultry feed)



# Human-Caused Mortalities

Primary causes: unknown, self-defense, mistaken ID

❖ Had a reduction since 2009, most notably on the Montana side

## Grizzly bear management removals:

- 1 in 13 years
- 2 in 20+ years

## Black bear management removals:

- 27 in 13 years

